



Breaking foreign codes, tapping the Kremlin itself—America's electronic snoopers have now displaced the CIA as the nation's top intelligence gatherers. For an exclusive look at an agency shrouded in secrecy—

Two hurdles. Now, NSA's electronic espionage network is threatened by two developments. One is a revolution in encoding technology that is making it easier for America's rivals to keep secrets and vastly more difficult for the U.S. to crack the incredibly complicated codes that are coming

With this kind of worldwide intelligence-gathering network, based on a system of 500,000-600,000 taps have been raised as to whether the agency is spying on Americans as well as on foreigners. Congressional investigators learned